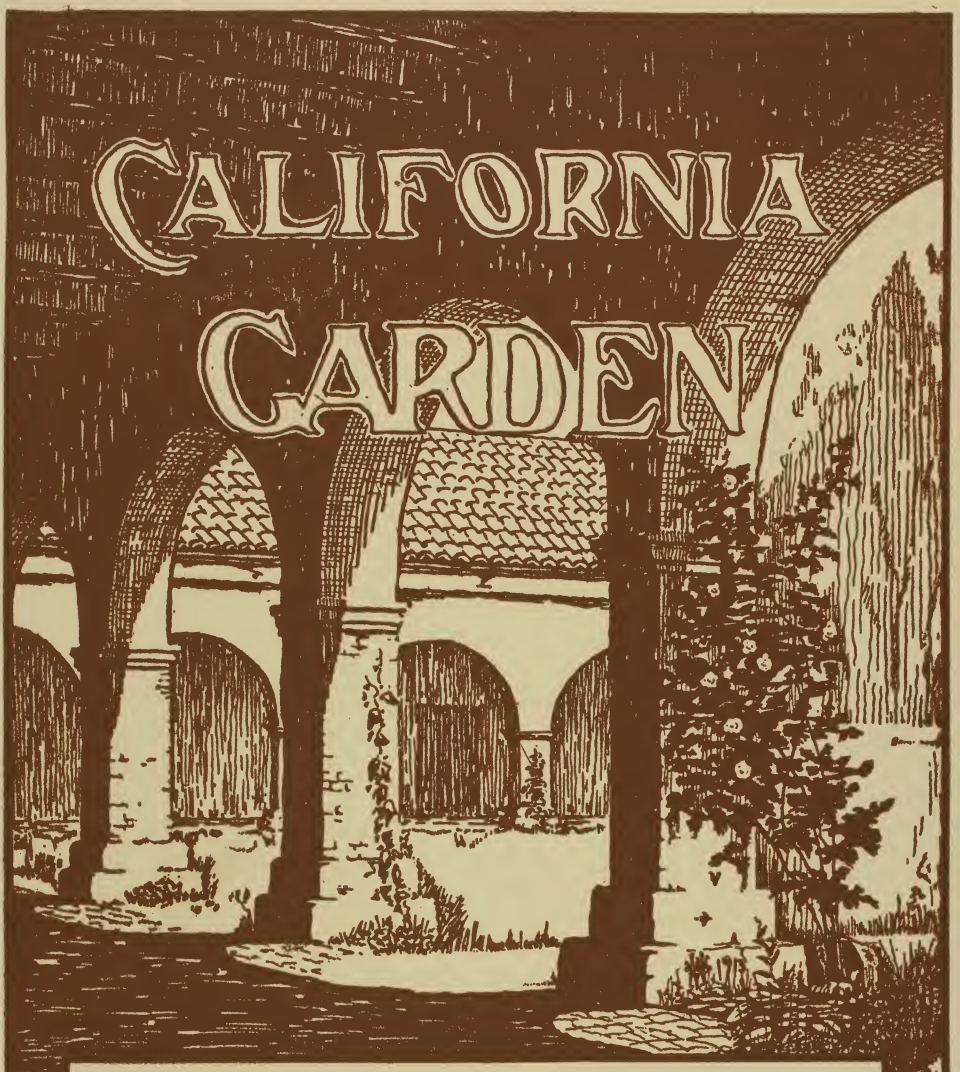

IN THIS NUMBER

PREMIUM LIST OF SPRING FLOWER SHOW

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

MARCH, 1931 TEN CENTS

HARRIS LAWN PEP

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The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 20 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.50 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $2.00 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 22 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, MARCH, 1931 No. 9

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SPRING SHOW
Roses and Other Flowers
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 11 AND 12, 1931
MAIN PLAZA, BALBOA PARK
Opening Saturday, 2 P. M.
Admission, 25 Cents

SECTION "A"—AMATEURS

* 1. Best Collection of Roses—not less than 12 varieties and not more than 3 blooms of a kind. (Association Cup.)
* 2. Best 6 varieties of Roses—not more than 3 blooms of a kind. (American Rose Society Silver Medal.)
* 3. Best Collection of Roses—not more than 1 bloom of a kind. (American Rose Society Bronze Medal.)
4. Best 3 White Roses, one variety.
5. Best 3 Red Roses, one variety.
6. Best 3 Yellow Roses, one variety.
7. Best 3 Yellow Shaded Roses, one variety.
8. Best 3 Pink Roses, one variety.
9. Best 3 Pink Shaded Roses, one variety.
10. Best 3 Flame Colored Roses, one variety. (example, Mme. Herriott).
11. Best 1 White Rose.
12. Best 1 Pink Rose.
13. Best 1 Yellow Rose.
14. Best 1 Red Rose.
15. Best 1 Crimson Rose.
16. Best 1 Pink Shaded Rose.
17. Best 1 Yellow Shaded Rose.
18. Best 1 Flame Colored Rose.
19. Best Single Rose (example, Isobel or Irish Elegance).
20. Best Display of Polyantha or Baby Roses.
21. Best Display of Climbing Roses.
22. Best Rose Introduced in 1930.
23. Best 6 Red Roses, one variety.
24. Best 6 White Roses, one variety.
25. Best 6 Yellow Roses, one variety.
26. Best 6 Yellow Shaded Roses, one variety.
27. Best 6 Pink Roses, one variety.
28. Best 6 Pink Shaded Roses, one variety.
29. Best 6 Flame Colored Roses, one variety.
* 30. Best Arranged Vase, Bowl or Dish of Roses.
* 31. Best Arranged Basket of Roses.
* BEST ROSE IN THE SHOW (San Diego Floral Association, Silver Medal).

Iris—Open Class

32. Collection of 20 or more German Iris.
33. Collection of 10 or more German Iris.
34. Collection of 5 or more German Iris.
35. Collection of 3 or more German Iris.
36. Specimen Stalk, Pink Lavender.
37. Specimen Stalk, Blue Lavender.
38. Specimen Stalk, White Lavender.
39. Specimen Stalk, Plicatas.
40. Specimen Stalk, Pink.
41. Specimen Stalk, Yellow.
42. Specimen Stalk, Red-Purple.
43. Specimen Stalk, Blue-Purple.
44. Specimen Stalk, Blends.
45. Specimen Stalk, Yellow and Brown.
46. Specimen Stalk, Red and White Bi-colors
47. Collection of Iris, not Bearded.
48. Collection of Bulbous Iris.
49. Vase or Basket of Beardless Iris.
50. Vase or Basket of German Iris with other flowers.
51. Vase or Basket of German Iris.
* 52. Iris Sweepstakes. (Trophy. See rule 14) American Iris Society Award.

SECTION "C"—AMATEURS

Sweet Peas

* 53. Best Collection Sweet Peas, 10 stems each vase. Harris Seed Co. Trophy.
54. Best Vase Sweet Peas, White.
55. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Cream and Yellow Shades.
56. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Red and Red Shades.
57. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Pink and Pink Shades.
58. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Lavender and Blue Shades.
59. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Purple and Maroon Shades.
60. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Salmon and Orange Shades.
61. Best Vase Sweet Peas, Bicolor. (In Classes 54 to 61 inclusive, 15 Stems Each Vase).

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62. Best Arranged Bowl of Sweet Peas.
63. Best Arranged Basket of Sweet Peas.
* SWEET PEA SWEEPSTAKES. San Diego Floral Association, Bronze Medal.

SECTION "D"—MISCELLANEOUS—AMATEURS

* 64. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers other than Roses, Wild Flowers or Sweet Peas.
65. Best Arranged Basket of Wild Flowers.
* 66. Best Arrangement of Flowers in Vase, Bowl or Dish.
67. Best French bouquet.
68. Best Individual Specimen Decorative Plant.
69. Best Cut Specimen Flowering Vine.
* 70. Best Collection of Bulb Flowers, six or more varieties. Mary Matthews Trophy.
71. Best Display of Gladiolus.
72. Best Display of Pansies.
73. Best Display of Violas.
74. Best Display of Cinerarias.
75. Best Display of Potted Plants (Example, Geraniums, Pelargoniums, Genistas, and Foliage Plants).
76. Best Display of Delphiniums.
77. Best Display of Stocks.
78. Best Display of Snapdragons.
79. Best Display of Calendulas.
80. Best Display of Larkspurs.
81. Best Display of Fuchsias.
82. Best Display any other Flowers not otherwise classified.
* Sweepstakes, Classes 71 to 82 inclusive.
* 84. Best Displayed Collection of Succulents and Cacti. Open class.
* 85. Best Rock Garden suitably planted. Open class.
* 86. Best Collection of Begonias, Ferns and other Lathhouse plants.
87. Best 1 Specimen Fibrous Begonia.
88. Best Specimen Maidenhair Fern.
* 89. Best Dining Table Decoration.
* 90. Best Japanese Arrangement of Flowers.
* 91. Best Display from Civic, State or National Institution.
* 92. Best Displayed Collection of Wild Flowers from a School in city.
* 93. Best Displayed Collection of Wild Flowers from a School in county outside of city.
* 94. Best Display of Wild Flowers or Grasses by an individual.
* 95. Best Display of Flowers grown and arranged by child 12 years and under.

SECTION "E"—PROFESSIONALS
(Entries by Nurserymen)

* 96. Best Display of Cut Roses.
97. Best Collection of Rose Bushes in Bloom.
* 98. Best General Display of Cut Flowers other than Roses.
* 99. Best Displayed Collection of Shrubs and Plants.
100. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.
101. Best Exhibit of Gladiolus.
102. Best 25 Shrubs.
103. Best Collection of Potted Fuchsias showing bloom.
*103a. Best Collection of Begonias, Ferns and other Lathhouse plants.
104. Best Hanging Basket for lathhouse or porch.
105. Best 3 or 5 decorative plants for patio in jars.
106. Best Collection of Aloes in bloom.
107. Best Collection Garden Pottery.

(Entries by Florists)
SECTION "L"

* 108. Best Arranged Basket, Bowl or Vase of Cut Flowers.

*Classes in which Trophies are offered. Handsome ribbons for first and second in all classes.

SHOW RULES

1. ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE IN PLACE AND PROPERLY ENTERED BY 11 A. M. OF FIRST DAY OF THE SHOW SO THAT JUDGING MAY BE COMPLETED AND AWARDS MADE BEFORE OPENING. NO EXHIBITOR WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE PRESENT WHILE JUDGING IS GOING ON.
2. All entries must be in the hands of the Clerks by 9 A. M. of the first day of Show. Clerks will be on duty at 7:30 A. M. and entries will be received at any time between these hours.
3. All exhibits must be labeled with the correct names of the plants on white cards 2x3 inches, which will be furnished without charge. Names of exhibitors in competitive classes positively must not appear on exhibits until after awards have been made. (Entries in Class 91 excepted from this rule.)
4. Exhibits are, from the commencement of the Show, under the jurisdiction of the Show officials and no exhibit shall be removed before the close of the Show without the authority of the official in charge.
5. Entries will not be considered by the judges unless meritorious.
6. Exhibits can be entered in one class only.
7. The committee on awards is authorized to give suitable award for any meritorious exhibit not included in the Classes named.
8. Vases are loaned without charge for cut flowers in the competitive classes.
9. All pot plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months; all other flowers and plants except collected wild flowers must have been grown by the exhibitor, except where used for table decorations.
10. Dining table decoration will be judged wholly on the merits of the flowers and their arrangement. Simple accessories are recommended.

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11. In class where a given number of blooms is specified any excess or deficiency of count shall constitute cause for disqualification.
12. SWEET PEAS will be judged by length of stem, color, size, substance and number of flowers on stems.
13. ROSES will be judged in accordance with the standards of the American Rose Society.
14. IRIS sweepstakes trophy to be awarded on following points: all collections receive 5 points for first; 3 points for second; 2 points for third. All other Iris classes count on basis of 3-2-1.
15. A Display is an arrangement for quality and artistic effect.
16. A Collection is a variety of meritorious kinds brought together.
17. All vases, baskets, bowls, etc., belonging to exhibitors must be called for Monday morning not later than 11 o'clock.
18. The Floral Association invites exhibits, however small, if meritorious. Exhibits of single specimens of flowers or plants will be duly considered. Special reservations of space may be made by telephone with Secretary Mr. Sydney Hill, Main 0605. Where exhibits are to be of any considerable size it is advisable to make reservations in advance.

NO FEE IS CHARGED FOR MAKING ENTRIES IN THIS SHOW

LIQUIDAMBER STYRACIFLUA
Sweet Gum

A native of the Atlantic coast states. A tree that I have known since I was a boy, yet not until this autumn did I see a seed pod or a seed, and, amazing as the statement may seem the trees—two of them—are growing within the city limits of New York. The seed pods are globular, the size of Sycamore seed balls, suspended on pedicles four inches in length. The seed is a diminutive edition of an Ash tree seed, which is wafted to great distances by strong winds. Fertile seed are few indeed, one or two to the ball, therefore Nurserymen can't sell little trees at a profit as cheaply as trees that seed freely.

There are two reasons for directing the attention of readers of California Garden to this subject. First; it is the only deciduous tree that will give to Southern California gardens the Autumn colors of the East. Not even the Pistachia tree is comparable to it when the foliage is mature. Second; if given room for development it will form a top that is pyramidial in outline, without the use of knife or of shears. If this testimony to the beauty of this subject when developed, will lead any reader thereof to planting one or more of them, the thought must be kept in mind that they must have water in abundance during the growing season.—P. D. B.

FLOWER SHOW CHAIRMEN

Roses: Mrs. Geo. Gardner, Bayview 0346.
Sweet Peas: Mr. and Mrs. H. Gibbs, Hillcrest 1550-J.
Baskets and Bowls: Mrs. Robt. Morrison, Hillcrest 0809-W; Mrs. Alfred Mitchell, Main 7049.
Iris: Mrs. Paul Tuttle, Main 4374.
Lathhouse Subjects: Mrs. Oscar Quarforth, Hillcrest 1550-J.
Bulbous Flowers:
Delphiniums, Stocks, Snapdragons, Calendulas, Larkspurs, and Unclassified Flowers: Mrs. W. H. Hutchings, Hillcrest 3912-J.
Succulents, Cacti and Rock Garden Plants: Hillcrest 1550-J.
Dining Table Decorations: Mrs. E. W. S. Delacour, Hillcrest 5061, Main 3594.
Japanese Arrangement: Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Hillcrest 4026-J.
Wild Flowers—City Schools: Carol De Wilton Scott.
Wild Flowers—County Schools: William Wright.
Professional Exhibits: Walter Birch, Main 0842.
Floor Plans: John G. Morley.
Judges: Walter Birch.
Nomenclature: Miss Mary Matthews.
Gate Receipts: John Bakkers.
Clerking: Mrs. Elsie Case.
General Chairman: Mrs. Mary A. Greer, Hillcrest 1550-J.
General Secretary and Information: Mr. Sydney Hill, Main 0605.

WATER PLANTS

The Water Pools never lose interest but we keep that interest alive by adding something new each season. Now we have some new plants imported direct from China in bulb form. The Water Chestnut is used quite extensively in Chop Suey; it is also delicious when peeled and eaten raw, and it makes a beautiful feature when grown in a pool. Caltropa is the name of a horned black nut which has most beautifully colored leaves, has white flowers and grows till it is yards in length, all under water. A new mammoth Saggitaria bulb, also from China, gives promise of living up to its reputation of 5 foot height, as the bulbs are immense and are throwing out strong roots and even this early the leaves are good size. The blossoms are promised me to be "some white, some yellow" although I strongly suspect that means the yellow is only in the stamens. If one wishes something for a center piece, or a corner, the Saggitarias are always good and the tall kinds make a beautiful show if given enough root room and fertilizer.

—Mrs. W. S. Thomas.

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STRAY THOUGHTS

By Peter D. Barnhart

We gardeners of this Southland have yet a lot to learn about plant life, and its adaptation to the varied conditions of soil and climate, air drainage, and a lot of other factors pertaining to the Art, before we dare hope to be absolutely sure of the instructions we may offer to the novice as being correct to successful gardening.

To illustrate the idea I have in mind. In and about San Diego, Nandina domestica is one of the desirable berried shrubs. In and about Los Angeles it blooms, but rarely sets seed, or if it does, they are so few that the quantity is negligible. A number of years ago I received some plants of Tricuspidaria dependens. Little plants they were, but in three years they grew to good sized trees, and flowered freely. A beautiful evergreen, small tree, the pure white flowers, bell shaped, depending from every leaf bud along the stem. I collected seed, grew a lot of plants, distributed among members of the profession. Those seedlings are now good sized specimens, and never a one of them has shown any disposition to bloom. A native of Chili, why do they thus behave?

Several years ago; four to be exact, I was lured into buying a plant of Myrica rubra, because of the glowing description given of the beauty of the fruit, and of its lusciousness. The bush; an evergreen, has made luxurious growth, healthy in appearance, and never a blossom. While we are on this subject, let's think of one, indigenous to the sandy shores of the New England states. Wax Myrtle is the common name of this shrub; Myrica cerifera, its Botanic name. Candles made of the wax of the berries burn with a sweet smelling, pungent odor, and for that reason are highly prized, even though expensive.

Incidentally, there is a family of Iris, known as Marica, one species of which, a native of Brazil, is exceedingly attractive when in flower, even though they last but a day. It will not stand our chilly nights, even on the highlands where air drainage is perfect. It is a house plant on the Atlantic coast; no collection is considered complete without it. Coerulea is its specific name.

And now let's talk about a few things which are a success in this land of sunshine and of flowers.

Lopezia albiflora is the first one for consideration. And what a gem it is. It delights in our brilliant sunlight, and heaven knows that we need that sort of plants. The flowers are borne in terminal panicles from November to May. They are composed of four sepals, dark red in color. Five petals, the two outside ones spreading, clawed, spatulate, tinged with pink. The two center ones, very narrow, and white. The lower one small, and about as long as the sepal. The plant itself is a scandant shrub, climbing over bushes, if given a chance; gloriuosly beautiful during our rainy season. If this description will awaken an interest in the plant, and amateurs wish to try it, they must bear in mind that only on highlands with good air drainage will it stand the chilly nights.

We want a ground cover that will luxuriate in the shade of trees, and that will not be injured when trod upon. Helxine Soleirolii is the finest thing given a test in this Southland as a ground cover, but it will not stand the pressure of footsteps. It may be interesting to readers of this Journal to know that it belongs to the Nettle family. Ajuga reptans, said to be a native of Britain, is the ideal plant for shaded locations, if given water. It will make a sod of close texture, and as tough as well, it may not be as tough as whalebone, but tough enough to walk on without injury. Its nativity would lead one to think that our climate would be fatal to it, but such is not the case.

In Alaska two years ago, I met with a ground cover that shall be given a try out the coming season in a Botanic Garden. One of the Dogwood family; a compact plant covering rocks, the bracts surrounding the green flowers are pure white, the berries bright red. The stems on which the flowers grow are about four inches high. Cornus canadensis is its name. That however, is a dream, the experiment may be a failure as many other experiments have been that this writer has made, during the last quarter century.

I said in the beginning that we need plants that will stand the blistering sunlight during the summer season.

Othonna crassifola fills the bill, and will thrive on a minimum amount of water. Little Pickels is one of the common names applied to it because the foliage, though small, resembles cucumbers in appearance. South Africa is its native habitat. One more plant for covering waste places is Mahernia verticillata. Odorata was the specific name years ago, and that is what it should be now. The flowers are yellow, bell shaped and very sweet scented. An evergreen procumbent shrub that resents a lot of water during the summer months. So far as this writer knows, neither one of these subjects are troubled with insect pests, and that is an advantage in gardening where fungicides, insecticides and what not must be applied to plants if perfect fruit and flowers are to be had in California Gardens.

WEATHER DURING MARCH

By Dean Blake, Weather Bureau

There are apt to be more rainy days in March than any other month of the year, but

the monthly total averages less than that of either of the three preceding months. The average is 1.50 inches over a period of 81 years, but the monthly amounts have ranged from none twice to 7.88 inches in 1867.

Temperatures begin to climb, and days with minimums below freezing are scarce even in the agricultural valleys back from the coast, where firing to protect the citrus groves has never been resorted to during the month. In the city the highest reading ever reported was 99 degrees in 1879, during the prevalency of a hot, drying wind; the lowest was 36, in 1894.

Storms move quickly in March, and are often attended by high southerly winds which veer to the west and continue for 48 hours or longer. Heavy downpours under these circumstances may be expected in the mountains, and occasionally heavy snowfall takes place which remains on the ground for several weeks.

Past records show an average of 14 clear days, 9 partly cloudy days and 8 cloudy days. The sunshine averages 67 per cent. There are no marked changes in the relative humidity figures over the preceding month, the mean at 5 a. m. being 80 per cent, and at 5 p. m., 68 per cent.

HORTUS

A Concise Dictionary of Gardening, General Horticulture and Cultivated Plants in North America

Compiled by L. H. Bailey & Ethel Zoe Bailey.
(The Macmillan Co., 1930; $10.00)

The service undertaken for us by this notable book is quaintly indicated by its ancient and honorable short title, the character of its performance by the supplementary title, and its adequacy to the intended purpose by the names of its compilers. It seems, however, more of a cyclopedia in treatment than a mere dictionary, and the amount of information successfully packed within the compass of just one volume is something enormous. Those who already possess the Cyclopedia of Horticulture do not perhaps need the present work so much as the rest of us do, but many perhaps will desire both, and certainly either the Cyclopedia or the Hortus should be included in every true gardener's bookshelf however restricted in scope. In fact it is hard to comprehend how most of us have got along without such a work as this as long as we have.

Due to a painstaking effort to go back to original but often nearly forgotten spellings, the eye encounters every now and then a familiar genus in strange or even uncouth garb—Aubrieta instead of Aubrietia, Buddleja in the place of Buddleia, Buginvillaea for Bougainvillea (it is hard to reconcile one's self to this one), Gerberia for Gerbera, to name but a few. Some may feel it unfortunate that this was attempted in a general work for popular use until there is better agreement among the botanists themselves, but at least there is perhaps something to be said meanwhile for consistency. A spirited defense of the procedure chosen is set forth in the preface.

Under each genus treated is given the name of the family to which it belongs, the region of its nativity, a crisp diagnosis, brief cultural notes, and a descriptive synopsis of the cultivated species. Of course it is not at all to be expected in a work of this very ambitious scope that every plant of horticultural import could be caught and pigeonholed. Consequently occasional omissions are to be noted, some of them rather important ones, such as the extraordinary Iris wattii, the unique hybrid Jasminum stephanense, and Cypripedium calceolus, to mention illustratively a few pets missed by the present reviewer as he wandered through the pages.

True, Watsonias bloom in spring rather than summer in California, not all Convolvuli are prone to be weedy, and some will wish that fragrance as an important character of plants were more consistently given its meed, but a critic needs only read the aforesaid preface to be wholly overthrown and reduced in his turn to a due humility. We trust he may be forgiven however a perchance still lingering wish that accent marks for the generic names had been included. To many an eager reader lacking other readily consultable authority this would indeed have been a boon, as well as a much needed encouragement toward a more uniformly correct horticultural speech among us.

One must not let the opportunity pass without complimenting the excellent system of cross-referencing which has been contrived. Whether one chances to look up family name, genus name, or common name, if only the name is there one is certain to find either the account one is after or a prompt reference to the particular heading where it will be found.

Inevitably the print is small, but clear and good, and one's impression is that important errors, typographical or otherwise, are remarkably few. Finally the simple dignity of the cover with its beautiful Roman lettering is an object lesson in this day of unrestrained, let alone calculated, ugliness. It fittingly enshrines a work which for many years will stand an ornament to American horticulture and scholarship.—S. S. B.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

Editor
Silas B. Osborn
Associate Editors
John Bakkers
Walter S. Merrill

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

P. O. Box 323 San Diego, Cal.

Main Office, San Diego, California

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Member
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American Iris Society
California Fuchsia Society

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES

One Page ----------$15.00 Half Page, ----------$7.50
Quarter Page--------- 3.75 Eighth Page ---------- 2.00
Advertising Copy should be in by the 1st of each Month

Subscription to Magazine, $1.00 per year; Membership $1.50 per year; Magazine and Membership combined $2.00 per year.

McKELVEY'S
Elite Printing Co. 851 2nd. St., San Diego

REPORT OF FEBRUARY MEETING

The San Diego Floral Association held its regular meeting in the Floral Building, Balboa Park, Tuesday, February 17th, at 7:30 o'clock, p. m.

In calling the meeting to order, the chairman, Mrs. Mary A. Greer, spoke of the rare treat offered the meeting in having Mr. Armacost, orchid grower of Los Angeles, as the speaker for the occasion.

Invitation was extended by the chairman to the members of the Association to visit the gardens of Miss Kate Sessions in Pacific Beach, Tuesday, March 3rd, from two to five o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. Robert McLean, San Diego County Horticulturist, addressed the meeting in favor of the Park Bonds to be voted on March 10th. In urging members of the association to support the bond issue, Mr. McLean spoke of the slight excess in amount of taxes which the bonds would make—barely 5c on the $100.00 valuation.

Mrs. Greer then introduced Mr. Armacost, whose talk on orchids was one of the outstanding features which for so many years have been provided for members of the Floral Association. Mr. Armacost, in amusing and entertaining fashion, touched upon the history of the orchid, its many varieties and method of culture. Orchids are found the world over, except on the desert and in the polar regions; they are not a parasite, as so many people think. First introduced into England about the year 1731, they have been so carefully studied and developed that today orchids are produced and sold in vast quantities. Mr. Armacost brought with him quite a number of very beautiful and rare specimens of this favorite flower, which he exhibited during his talk, and afterwards.

Several specimens of plant and shrub were explained by Miss Kate Sessions and the meeting closed to partake of refreshments provided by the House Committee.—A. S. Hill.

MARCH MEETING

The next meeting of the Floral Association will be held in the Floral Building, Balboa Park, Tuesday, March 17th, 1931, at 7:30 o'clock, p. m. The speaker for the occasion will be announced later through the daily newspapers.

ENCINITAS FLOWER SHOW

The Encinitas mid-winter flower and fruit show was by far the best exhibit ever shown there and certainly made every visitor realize what value the winter and early spring flowers have for our gardens. The new mammoth ranunculus not only in size but of beautiful and varied colors—both single and double. The anemones likewise were fine in color, single and double and particularly the double lavender and purple shades.

The show of freesias was so very fine in colorings—many shaded pinks, lavenders and deep yellows as well as the original yellow and white, and the famous long-stemmed purity—pure white. A few of the watsonias were shown, mostly new shades. It was too early for watsonias in general.

The large trumpet daffodils, King Alfred, were glorious and the varieties of the polyanthus narcissus or the common Chinese lily type were conspicuous.

All of the bulbs shown were grown in the open and can be grown in any garden if planted **early** enough and given a fair amount of care, principally the right amount of moisture. Our fine late rains were of course very beneficial to all such early bloomers. Many bulbs that will bloom later were of course not in evidence. The fine gladioli in variety shown were the result of planting at the right time

and that is the fine thing about the gladioli —they can be planted each month or even each week in the year and good results follow and that gives one flowers at all times.

Probably the most interesting collection of unusual flowers exhibited was the display of 36 named cut specimens of flowering shrubs and trees and all showing the blossoms, from the garden of Mr. Hugh Evans of Santa Monica. Not more than 3 or 4 of the 36 were known by the best informed gardeners or nurserymen who visited the show. There were three kinds of new Eucalyptus sprays in bloom, also a new Hakea, a cream colored Grevillea that makes a large flower and quite a tree. A fine bunch of the lovely Cantua buxifolia, a winter blooming shrub, like a glorified fuchsia, there are a few plants in San Diego, there should be more. A buddliea that was not very attractive, an interesting specimen of Eugenia Smithii, with its sprays of lavender fruit— this slender shrub is sure to be popular and desirable. A large bunch of a flowering shrub resembling the leptospermum but with finely cut foliage and a profusion of pinkish blooms like the leptospermum. A fine specimen of a dainty new shrub like a pink flowering diosma.

There were fine displays of stock in a variety of colors, fine nemesias, primrose malecoides and obconica in fine shades of lavender, pink, and deep carmine. Nemesias, a South African winter bloomer that must become more common and snapdragon flowers in long spikes were conspicuous. The early planting of this flower prevents the rust trouble to a large extent. A fine new Iceland poppy was the center of attraction, of a fine shade of coppery yellow. Those two new South African annuals— the gorgeous Venidium and the hybrid Arctotis flowers were very fine and both will become a universal favorite for an all the year round flower though a new seeding annually will give better looking plants. These flowers are fine for cutting. They were grown by Mr. Murray Horne of Carlsbad.

Flowering Aloes were conspicuous for the first time this year. The Escondido booth displayed a thrifty young plant of the Clianthus Dampieri or Glory Pea of Australia. Last year also this flower was exhibited by them. It attracted much attention and should be in more general cultivation, as it is so rare in most gardens of the world, but is not very difficult to grow in this climate from fresh seed.

—K. O. Sessions.

TILLAGE DISCUSSED BY SCHOONOVER AT DAVIS SHORT COURSE

DAVIS, Calif.—Tillage has a more or less indirect relationship to soil moisture control and maintenance of fertility, the two fundamentals of soil management, said Warren D. Schoonover, extension soils specialist of the University of California, speaking before the rural electric short course here.

He pointed out that the soil management practices used in maintaining fertility and in controlling moisture are fertilization and green manuring directly related to maintenance of fertility, irrigation and drainage directly related to control of moisture and tillage which has a more or less indirect relationship to both moisture and fertility.

"The functions of tillage in the production of permanent rooted crops," said Schoonover, "are as follows: to control weed competition, to incorporate organic matter with the surface soil, to prepare land for the distribution of water, to facilitate harvesting or other orchard operations and to prepare a seed bed for green manure crops.

Weed Control Important

"Probably the most important function is the control of weed competition. Competition occurs for both moisture and plant nutrients and usually competition for nutrients is more severe than competition for moisture in irrigated orchards and vineyards.

"Tillage has generally been credited with accomplishing certain things which it does not accomplish. Among these things are the following: conservation of moisture, tillage does not conserve moisture in a weed free soil; aeration, tillage aerates only the stirred portion of the soil which would very likely be well aerated anyway, being close to the surface. Except by keeping weeds from using moisture or nutrients from lower soil levels tillage has no effect on the unstirred portion of the soil except a packing effect; except under a few special conditions tillage does not aid moisture penetration; tillage does not influence the development of roots in the lower soil levels.

Tillage Harms Soil Structure

"Tillage is harmful to soil structure and tilled land is hardly ever in as good a state of what we call tilth as the same soil in its virgin state. Because of its harmful effects, tillage should be practiced only when a beneficial purpose can be accomplished which will more than offset the harm which is done to soil structure.

"All of the useful purposes of tillage in an orchard can be accomplished by working a soil to a very shallow depth, usually not exceeding four or five inches, by very much less tillage than has been customarily carried on in orchards and vineyards and by working the soil when it is dry enough to crumble rather than pack. Moisture content of the soil for proper tillage should be judged by a sample taken about six inches below the surface rather than in a surface sample."

THE MEMBERS OF THE HORTICULTURAL CONGRESS VISIT ENGLAND

By Eva Kenworthy Gray

The English Flower Shows were marvelous and the garden very beautiful. At one of the estates we visited the luncheon tables were set on the terrace under the awning. The service was done by four maids in brown with buff caps and aprons, (they were extra help,) under the direction of a dignified butler. There were three maids in the house in black. A little twelve-year-old "buttons" in brown livery and white gloves appeared at my elbow and said, "There is a red wine and a white wine and mineral water." Poor child! Handling wine at his age! Our hostess wore a rose flowered chiffon gown, (I suppose pride kept her warm for the rest of us clung to our overcoats). You may be interested to know her gown touched the ground and she did not have short hair.

There is a marvelous rose garden. Mr. Weltern, our host, is rose (amateur) champion of England. There is also a nice rock garden, quite large.

I admired the Coltness hybrid dahlias very much, and the gardener offered to send me seed. They were lovely colors and the luncheon tables were decorated with them.

I was also entertained at tea at the famous rock garden of Frederick Hanbury. He is a kindly old man and his garden is considered the finest in the world as he has plants from every corner of the globe.

Fine veronicas from New Zealand, plants from Patagonia, Chili, Africa and Australia. A wonderful collection of heathers, ferns, and oh, a thousand other things. I spoke of the interesting old half-timbered houses in the nearest village of East Grimstead (Oliver Cromwell's home is one) and he said, "Oh, yes, that's my village." He owns the whole village!

The Royal Horticultural Show in London was gorgeous. Blackmore & Langdon had a new tuberous begonia that was twelve inches across.

I spent two days at Kew and scarcely began to see what they have. They have the Gloire de Sceaux. I soon found they would neither give or sell. Would only exchange with other Botanical Gardens. So I'm going to the New York Botanical Gardens and see what wires I can pull for exchanges. I will work with the N. Y. B. G. in identifying begonias. They have asked me to lecture there this winter on begonia culture.

I hope I am not found wanting. The curator at Kew told me that some of their begonias were listed under seven different names.

Multiflora rosea is labeled B. Fuchsoides var. rosea. They grow Foliosa in big hanging baskets lined with moss and it was lovely. They call it B. Fuchsoides var. minata. Alba Perfecta Grandiflora is called Undulata. A plant labeled Incana, is much like Peltata, blossoms not quite the same. Petiolata is almost like Dichatome, as is also Lobata. Inflata has long smooth, red-flecked stem and large smooth green leaf. Roxburg is similar and neither is pretty. They have at least three Credneris, all different.

I spent three thrilling days at the seed houses and trial grounds of Sutton and Sons, Reading, England. A fine firm founded in 1806 by John Sutton and is still in the family. The business day is opened with prayer in a little chapel in the seed house. Nothing was said about this when I visited the place but it was told me by an officer of the Royal Horticultural Co. You have to send 35c for a catalogue; it costs them 62c to print it, but it is wonderful with many colored plates.

I saw the seed tested and walked miles through their flower fields. The first day I went with the party of Congress members. They served a very nice lunch to us (free). Soup, cold ham and beef, mashed potatoes, green peas, salad, truffle (like Charlotte russe), cheese and coffee. There also was claret, sauterne, cider, beer, claret cup, and lemon squash. No water, it is only used for washing in England.

Prince Shimadza of Japan was guest of honor—a solemn little Jap. At four o'clock we left the fields and were taken to another large room where a high tea was served by a gorgeous and stately butler in a dress suit with under waiters also in dress suits. The silver tea service was magnificent. There were many kinds of sandwiches and cakes. After this a group picture was taken. A few days later I went out alone for another day's study. To my surprise I was entertained royally at the home of Leonard Sutton, the head of the firm. A lovely English home and that same impressive butler. There was a young American woman, two Englishmen of the firm and one from Ceylon for tea. I was taken to Mr. Balfour's cottage about thirty miles away, a genial young Scotchman in charge of their annual trial at Slough. No servants here, his sister Elsie keeps house for him. A friend of hers was present, also two young professors from Edinborough Botanical Gardens and an Englishman from Siam. Such a jolly crowd.

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS

Victor L. Jones, Altadena, Calif.
Geo. H. Carr, Olive View, Calif.
Mrs. Duncan McDuffie, Berkeley, Calif.
Library, Lenine Academy, Moscow, Russia.
Mary Amary Green, San Diego, Calif.
Dr. Olivia Meyers, San Diego, Calif.
Mr. Fred W. Meyers, San Diego, Calif.
Mrs. G. Eugenia Miller, San Diego, Calif.

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THE LATHED GARDEN

By Alfred D. Robinson

I have been chopping roots of a big cypress that was poaching heavily in my garden. There were two immense ones a foot in diameter that crossed the twenty foot ditch and a lot of little fellows. I chopped through those giants down in a foot wide ditch on Washington's birthday and I am referring to the event for two reasons, one being that I find the influence of the cherry tree and the little hatchet interferes with my usual free style as I also want to say "I cannot tell a lie," and the other, to dwell a little upon the method employed to try and discourage another immediate root invasion. In the past I was speaking to a visitor about digging this ditch to cut the roots of the cypress and the visitor recommended I paint the side of the ditch heavily with tar or asphaltum. I did not and do not know just how one would make a good coating on a more or less loose earth wall but it occurred that a piece of roofing paper would have the same effect, so before filling up the ditch a strip of roofing was inserted. No roots have yet penetrated but the job is only a week old and this is the measure of my confidence, for I have actually seen a Eucalyptus root that climbed a wall to go up the hole in the bottom of a pot. I have already been asked 'steen times, "But won't it hurt the tree?" I suspect it will give it a bit of a shock but that tree, through its two racketeer roots, has killed, during the past two years, pet plants too numerous to mention. Having thus chopped an arm off my sentimentality I got rid of another planting that has been a nuisance for a decade, a row of big bamboo that was a robber under the ground, and a strewer of leaves on the surface.

It took two years to find some one who would move this Bamboo to have it, though to buy it from a nursery would have involved a considerable outlay. There were only some thirty feet in the row but it took four huskies, two axes, three spades, two saws, a crowbar, a huge chisel and sledge, two days to get it out, and they were trying all the time. The weightiest of the men, remarked about ten of the first morning, "I begin to feel as if I had not eaten enough breakfast." And now I have space for more lathed garden and I shall not have to sweep up every hour of the days the wind blows. I am rather dwelling on this uprooting, so that those who have admired the bamboo in the past will refrain from crying for it in the future.

It was very gratifying to find Mrs. E. K. Gray contributing to the pages of California Garden but I am compelled by memory of the Washington hatchet to take issue with her, in the matter of fertilizing Begonias. For five years I have used fertilizer increasing with, to me, most satisfactory results, and have found many varieties under this treatment to live long and happily, whereas without it they were puny and without flowers. I can, however, quite agree with Mrs. Gray that it is better to abstain from fertilizer unless it is used with great care. I have practically abandoned all fertilizers except in liquid form and even then I want such as can be definitely apportioned like a doctor's prescription. My argument for fertilization is, that the accepted compost for growing Begonias is at least half leaf mold and a lot of sand neither of which contain much plant food, if any. After having written all that, I am obliged to confess that I pay a lot of attention to what Mrs. Gray says when she is talking about Begonias.

I seem to be coming down with a severe attack of hanging basket Flu and am thinking of how charming one was last year with a single pink chrysanthemum. In one of the English garden papers was a picture of what was titled a Cascade Chrysanthemum, and by the way, may I not write just "Mum" for the rest of this. Thank you. This picture showed a plant that literally cascaded from a pot down a pedestal to the ground covered with flowers. In some of the Eastern shows something similar has been staged and quite a bit written, and one writer seemed to suggest that it was not a new type of plant but merely the smaller flowered, slimmer stemmed old mums allowed to droop instead of being tied to a stake. From conversation with Mrs. Maxwell of Ramona I gather that she has several varieties that she thinks would be suitable for hanging baskets. Vaughans of Chicago are advertising seed of Japanese Balcony Mums which from the description should be the thing wanted. Yes, I have some of the seed planted, and I made all the plants I could from my pink of last year. If these Mums prove out as hanging basket plants they will be another link in an all the year round chain.

Achimenes and Gesneria must be worked over now. Either makes a good basket, especially the former. The best effect will be had by working in some of the rhizomes as the dirt is filled in so that the shoots will come from the sides as well as the top. Achimenes are of the easiest culture and multiply most generously. They come in several colors.

California Garden has always been quite interested in Hatfield the Rainmaker so I pass on the latest I gleaned from the press that in these depressed times he has found no one has the money to pay for a nice rain so he has had to seek other employment and his wife is seeking a divorce. Things seem to be "all wet" with him.

This is written on the sixth night that has registered close down to forty in the lathed garden, perhaps a useful reminder that March is apt to be stormy. To put it as one old resident did the other day, saying, "I have seen more weather in March than in February and January put together. The warmer spell preceding had started the sap running quite freely and the tall Begonias were making new leaves and shedding the old ones faster than I could pick them up. Every year distressed persons come to me with a story of falling leaves and this year has been no exception. It is a good, rather than a bad, sign for Begonias to shed their leaves at this season for it means activity; the leaves on a sick begonia stay on and wither.

The wonderful rains must not be regarded as one hundred per cent effective in lathed gardens, where abundant or large foliage diverts the fall from around the plant. It is quite possible for some plants especially those in pots or other containers to be absolutely dry after a heavy rain. I do not allow the surface to become dry at this season and can be found working the hose very shortly after rain. A light sprinkling is all that is necessary but Begonias are surface rooters and that should always be in mind.

NATIVES

Spring planting fever is upon most of us. The brown hillsides have turned to green and groups of wild flowers liven up the landscape with their bright colors. Unwittingly, perhaps, our footsteps lead us to nurseries where we delight in wandering aimlessly among the groups of plants, conjecturing all the while whether a place can be found for this or that desirable plant.

Numerous comments on the culture, use and desirability of native trees, shrubs and plants have appeared from time to time in the columns of the "California Garden." In view of the fact that this type of plant material has been used in comparatively few instances where it is practical and desirable we feel justified in assuming that many garden lovers regard these comments as the view point of faddists or even extremists. Of course, nothing could be farther from the truth. Natives are more adapted than most plant immigrants to the whole natural landscape in Southern California. Judicious selection will provide garden subjects perfectly adapted to existing conditions such as humidity, soil, wind and temperature, all of which largely determine the health, vigor and general appearance of plants. Most of the natives attain a higher degree of cultural perfection, in the garden, and nearly all will withstand drought and neglect. What could be more practical than to capitalize on nature's acclimatization of these particular plants?

And as to beauty: Is the Incense Cedar (Libocedrus decurrens) any the less breathtaking in its symmetrical grandeur because it is native? What true plantsman can ignore the beauty of the ceanothus? Has the live oak any equal for beauty and shade in the southwest? What of the Fremontias, Parkinsonias, native cherries, (Prunus ilicifolia and integrifolia), the lemonade berry (Rhus integrifolia), sugar bush, (Rhus ovata), California Laurel (Umbellularia californica), Madrone tree, (Arbutus menziesii) the flaming berried California holly, (Heteromeles or Photinia Arbutifolia), Yuccas, Matilija poppy, (Romneya Coulteri), flowering currants, (Ribes sps.), coffee berries, (Rhamnus sps.), monkey flowers (mimulus sps.) and many others.

At least some of these plants should find a place in your garden. But enough. What is needed is action, not talk. Let us all work together in our efforts to make California even more beautiful (in the towns and cities) than it is. Many plantsmen of long experience will tell you that a more general use of our native plants will greatly aid in attaining this end.

"ROSE OF CASTILE"

A three-act play based partially on the historic and romantic legend of the "Rose of Castile" in the halcyon days of the Franciscan Father's Mission development in California, will be given sometime during March by the San Diego Women's Club, at their Club House, 949 Ninth Street, San Diego. This is to be a Red Cross Relief project. The play was written by Elsie Jumper and was presented last fall for the first time. The characters are Spanish, Indians, Gypsies, and one American. There will be both singing and dancing. A nominal admittance charge of twenty-five cents will be made. Notice of the exact date of this presentation will be announced in the San Diego daily papers, according to Mrs. Frank Fay Jumper, 3002 Columbia Street, San Diego, to whom any inquiries should be addressed.

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URGES MEMORIAL FOR DISCOVERER OF TORREY'S PINE

Dr. Pammel, Prominent Botanist, Suggests Marker for Dr. Charles C. Parry

Dr. L. H. Pammel, internationally known botanist, starred member of the American Academy of Science and professor of botany at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, yesterday stressed the need for an appropriate marker to the memory of Dr. Charles Christopher Parry, co-discoverer of Torrey's pine, with Dr. J. L. Le Conte in 1850.

Dr. Pammel visited Junipero Serra museum yesterday morning with Miss Fidelia Woodcock, curator of botany at San Diego Natural History Museum, and Roland S. Hoyt, San Diego landscape engineer. Dr. Parry was in San Diego with the American international boundary commission in 1849 and was botanist later to the Pacific railroad survey of the 35th parallel.

"His work is of the utmost historical value to San Diego," said Dr. Pammel. "I have his notes and expect soon to publish a sketch of his life and work. He explored up and down the coast here, going to the mouth of the Soledad river, where he found this pine. Nobody has ever studied the Torrey pine adequately and, of course, in Parry's time they didn't know it would prove so rare. There must be some reason why it occurs in that one place. It is not alone temperature, nor moisture. I don't know what are the causes of this phenomenon. I do know that every plant in that tract should be saved. Don't let them put roads through it. You could have trails. A qualified botanist should label the plants growing along the trails.

Would Preserve Tract

"I say we ought to have that tract preserved not only for California, but for scientists and others interested in these things. Make that place a wild life sanctuary. And above all things, don't let them go ahead and plant a lot of foreign stuff in there!"

Dr. Pammel, who was delegate from America to the Vienna convention of botanists in 1929, when the modern nomenclature of plants was established, spoke of the wonders of Balboa Park, with its possibilities for growing tropical plants. But again he emphasized the need to keep the open spaces free for native vegetation. "Our parks," he said, "at least large tracts in them, should illustrate the natural conditions that were there before they were put under cultivation."

The projected arboretum for San Diego county interested the scientist.

"Here is a place," he exclaimed, "where you can collect plants from the entire world. Beginning at the swamps and salt marshes of the coast and going up to the mountains, you can have everything. But be sure to save your native material. It would then be more than an arboretum. It would be a great international botanical garden.

Praises Marston

"Mr. Marston has done a wonderfully fine thing here in giving the city this building and the grounds surrounding it, where there are fine plants, many of historical importance. One of the things you should do here is to get as much data as possible about the plants that were used by the Indians. You know the Indians were the first to make lemonade, using the juice of the eastern sumach berries and of the berries of your local rhus integrifolia, the 'lemonadeberry'."

Next to the Torrey pine, Dr. Pammel seemed most interested in our ceanothus, about which Dr. Parry published a monograph in 1888, now out of print.

"The only native plants of the genus ceanothus to be found in the world are here," said the visitor impressively. "I hope you will save all your native things. San Diego is to be complimented on the labeling of the growing plants about the school grounds. Not many cities have had the forethought to do this. You know, we Americans are funny. We think a good deal of the present. We look out for ourselves, but the future can go hang. But your history should be saved before it is too late; and bound up with the history of the first comers is the history of the plants they found here. The charm to me is the natural aspect of the country."

Dr. Pammel will return to Ames, Iowa, about April 1.—San Diego Union.

TWO PERENNIAL DAISIES FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

Bellis rotundifolia caerulescens is sometimes misleadingly termed the "blue daisy." Although in some soils it seems to be more blue than in others, it is usually a very light lavender blue. It is however, a charming and convenient little plant for a place where something small and prolific is needed. It is constantly in bloom and in a warm, sheltered spot is an energetic self sower.

Bellium minutum is from Greece and a gem for the small rock garden. The leaves are small and attractive, somewhat suggesting those of the eastern bluet (Houstonia coerulea). The plant forms a low, close, tidy green mat from which come numerous three-inch erect stems bearing white daisies with deep pink on the reverse side of the petals.

—Lester Rowntree, Carmel, Calif.

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BEGONIA IMMENSE

By Eva Kenworthy Gray

This begonia came from Florida under that name. It probably belongs to the Manicata group as the leaf somewhat resembles that of the plain leaved Manicata. Smooth top, rather dark green with lighter green veins. As the leaf ages it takes on a bronzy cast. Underside of leaf light green tinted red. Deeply serrate and stems hairy.

Flowers a deep rose pink on very long stems. I exhibited this last May at the La Jolla Flower Show and it won a blue ribbon. It was in bloom at the time and made a very handsome specimen.

Seems a rather hardy sort and does not drop its leaves in fall when the temperature drops. Likes a box to grow in with good rich soil and leaf mould. Childs had a begonia catalogued as Immense, but his is of the Cane type.

Does anyone recognize it under its true name?

THE BREAD FRUIT TREE

Recently you published in the Garden a short sketch of the bread fruit tree. Let me add a little to it.

The breadfruit has fared ill at the hands of compilers of encyclopedias and dictionaries of gardening. It has peculiarities they have overlooked. Some years ago the Jamaica newspapers had quite a discussion that lasted for several weeks over the alleged peculiarities of this famous tree and though some of the writers were experts they failed in a correct decision. They finally decided there were two species of breadfruit, one that had seeds, and one that had bread, and thereby hangs a strange story.

In its true habitat the breadfruit does not produce bread, only seeds. These seeds are packed together the same as the seeds in a Brazil nut. These look like chestnuts and taste like them. Along the coast of Venezuela, and in Trinidad, none have seeds and the natives never heard of bread nuts. In Porto Rico few produce bread and the latter is of poor quality. In the French colony of Cayenne it reaches perfection and there is no sign of seeds except little black specks indicating embryos. There the trees are propagated from suckers which are not easy to transplant. The tree itself looks much better than in Jamaica or Porto Rico. In other words, the breadfruit produces bread when away from home and nuts when at home. Like some people, it does best away from home. It varies very considerably in quality. Six or seven varieties could easily be picked out by a nurseryman.

When there is a surplus growers dig a silo and store it. This causes ferment action which certainly improves it. The mass then is like soft dough. Its near relative, the Jack fruit, is a real fruit and is far more valuable. It is as large as a watermelon and tastes like a combination of fruits. It is improved by fermentation. It is served like ice cream, but while men don't care for it, Englishmen eat it if their noses are held and they are fed with a spoon. The Scotch say it is like an American breakfast food, made of sawdust and old eggs. Irishmen run away the minute they see it. It is good food nevertheless.—W. K. Morrison.

GARDENING IS NEW U. C. CLASS

The old strain of "how doth your garden grow" will become a reality with the announcement of the University of California extension division of courses of instruction in the bay region for adults in "The Small Garden."

All the fine points of gardening will be taught in the classes to be started this week. The San Francisco lectures will begin Wednesday night at 7 o'clock at 540 Powell Street, with the Oakland series starting Friday night at 7:30 in the Extension Center, 1730 Franklin Street.

Miss Cicely Christy of the Royal Horticultural Society of England will deliver the lectures.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

A VISIT TO K. O. SESSIONS GARDEN

Dream Gardens! Every garden lover has his dream and as we wended our way up the winding hillside road, getting a new thrill from the beauty that each turn disclosed, we suddenly came upon the dream garden that our own K. O. Sessions has fashioned on the heights above Pacific Beach. It seems as if the location was the symbol of this woman's life work. Calm and peaceful, it nestles in a sheltered dip at the top of the highest hill. It gazes out over a vast expanse of blue ocean and watches the waves beating restlessly against the rocky coast line. Just as Kate Sessions calmly surveys all of us restless ones rushing to get the results immediately, which it has taken her years of hard labor to achieve.

Back to the garden. No vast expanse of stupid perfect lawns; no well planned cement walks set in tidy straight lines and no pansy beds here and daisy beds there. On the contrary little paths led here and there to some favorite plant and as we followed Miss Sessions from one end of the garden to the other we knew that these paths were the result of loving pilgrimages. There had to be short cuts to that lovely waterfall of white genista and of course one must visit the oranges, then back across the hillside of aloes of every variety ranging from pale lemon to flaming red; then down the pergola to a lath house evidently built for the purpose of sheltering precious plants, rather than an attempt to look like a picture in a fashionable magazine. Here were so many charming and unusual plants that it would be impossible to describe them all but mention must be made of the rare varieties of Billbergia; the Cattleya or orchids with dainty brick red blossoms; the healthy looking terrestrial orchids which resemble lily-of-the-valley plants; a rare fern which dips its fronds to the earth and starts new plants at their tips and the gorgeous Strelitzia or Bird of Paradise. On these latter were many seed pods and if all of the seeds grow and the plants are sold at prevailing prices, Miss Sessions might be included amongst our great financiers. Again we must follow little paths to the many varieties of acacias, a shrub much favored by Miss Sessions, and each visitor was presented with sprays of blooms and also given a potted shrub or vine as a memento of a delightful afternoon spent with a woman who lives on the heights physically, mentally and spiritually.

—C. B. T.

NATURAL FLOWERS THAT NEVER WILT

By Maj. Geo. B. Bowers

Natural flowers that neither wilt nor freeze, suited for either the frozen zone or the desert waste, or as a substitute for fresh flowers anywhere, are produced in commercial quantities in Southern California. It is claimed that nowhere else has the Everlasting Flower become a separate, stable industry.

In San Diego County alone this unique industry, nine years old, utilizes almost 100 acres; and the growing, marketing and selling employs more than two hundred persons.

The Statice, of twenty distinct colors, is the most widely grown and, too, the Acrolinium, Helichrysum, Rodanthe and Gomphrena have proven popular. The Acrolinium is a long-stemmed pink flower, daisy-like. The Helichysums are Straw Flowers resembling Chrysanthemums, varying in color from creamy-white and soft-pink to deep-rose, copper, and bright yellow. The Gomphrena, with clover-like blossom, is produced in white, silver, gold and red.

A number of strange grasses are grown and dried to be used for decorative purposes, those most interesting are: Rattlesnake Grass, Cloud Grass and Hare's Tail. Rattlesnake Grass is a graceful, trembling plant that, when agitated, gives off a sound similar to the creature for which it is named. Cloud Grass is feathery, with silvery dots. Hare's Tail is a miniature, fluffy Cat-tail in creamy tan.

The fifteen varieties of flowers and grasses grown require the same care in cultivation as the less durable varieties grown for fresh blooms. Irrigation and fertilization are used to produce large, well-covered flowers. Once it was thought that the Everlasting Flower should be grown on dry, thin soil.

In Southern California these strange flowers and grasses are grown in the open, there being no month without a profusion of blooms. Some varieties bloom constantly throughout the year, others, only in Summer, while some prefer the Winter, and still others the Spring and Autumn.

The flowers are gathered and hung in bunches, heads downward, from a ceiling, to dry. Quantities are sold fresh from the garden but the bulk is arranged in more formal bouquets, or in baskets provided for the purpose, with varieties artistically combined.

Tourists buy great quantities of Everlasting Flowers for shipment home, frequently a single purchaser spends as much as $100. A single bouquet may cost as much as ten dollars. In San Diego and Los Angeles are stores dealing exclusively in these flowers. A dozen roadside stores between Los Angeles and San Diego sell to passing sightseers. But the bulk of the annual harvest is sold in New York for local consumption or export to countries with arid regions. China has proven a profitable buyer.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

WATER LILIES
By Mrs. W. S. Thomas

Have you divided and replanted yours? We hope so—it is quite time for they are now starting growth and you know any plant is better moved when dormant. Besides outgrowing their last year's quarters they also need a most generous helping of food (?) if they are to have strength to put forth those large blooms all summer. Some of the Tropicals nearly forgot we had a winter. Blue Triumph and Panama Pacific have never been without blooms, although we could scarcely be proud of the finished product they gave after cold nights were with us. These two were in an open pool but Dauben, Wilson and Amethyst really opened up full in the covered pool. Nature is always true to her laws of supply and demand, however, which in this case refers to the matter of Rest. Since the warmth of the covered pool kept them working all winter they are now getting even by dropping all old leaves and blossoms, and taking their rights. The Amethyst is a new lily of free blooming habit—a beautiful shade, true to its name, and produces its new plants on the leaves much quicker than any other of viviporous type, of which we have thus far had only blue shades.

But now catalogues are promising us a white and a pink in this class. Of course, the price is a little above the average but life isn't worth living if we cannot find something new. An interesting fact is that although the old lilies are just making a small attempt at new growth, the seedlings which are only 5 months old have already some new leaves, small of course, but very vigorous.

If we are fortunate enough to find a new variety among them when they bloom we will name it San Diego. Maybe the Chamber of Commerce would then give our Society a prize.

Although the Anagallis are annuals in climates where the winters are severe, the colors of some are beautiful enough to insure them a place in the garden. In Carmel, we cut them down after they have blossomed freely and within a short time they are up and at it again. That lovable weed, the Scarlet Pimpernel, is an anagallis and the garden species have much the same sprawling habit, though the flowers are larger and more intense in coloring. They like sun, a fertile soil and some moisture. A. Phillipsii is a rich brilliant blue of an intense quality too seldom met with in gardens. A. Monelli Parksii is a splendid tomato red. There are other anagallis of lighter shades but these two are the most striking.

—Lester Rowntree, Carmel, Calif.

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP

Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

1115 Fourth Street *San Diego*

IMPORTED FUCHSIAS

We told you a few months ago that our American Fuchsia Society was investing a few of our solid American dollars in English Fuchsias. To be explicit, we have 51 varieties growing now at Berkeley. Every one brought over seemed to gladly accept naturalization (although they reversed the usual process by bringing their papers with them instead of getting them on arrival), and 27 of the 51 varieties have already grown enough that cuttings have now been taken from them. If good luck and good health keeps in attendance, in a few months San Diego Fuchsia lovers will have a chance to add these English relatives to their garden, and we are informed they are all of unusual colors.

We were greatly pleased when visiting the Show at Encinitas to see the exhibit of fuchsias of the Carlsbad Garden Club. The ladies have adopted a sort of community plan; that is they are buying them individually, as it is convenient and as a club they now have 31 varieties, and are organized only a very short time. Their exhibit was very attractive; the pots were so buried that the plants appeared growing naturally as in a garden, and the vari-

eties on exhibit were all excellent ones. Another source of great satisfaction, was that we found a new one of the Corymbifolia type in an Encinitas Nursery, consequently, as a "Fuchsiaologist" I came home doubly pleased with Encinitas and their wonderful Flower Show. Next year our Floral Association must get busy and make a larger exhibit. It was most gratifying to see San Diego people get so many of the large prizes, but as large and flourishing as is our Association, it is surely up to us to let all those mid-winter visitors know what we can do when we try.—Mrs. W. S. Thomas.

Clinton, New York.

Mr. Clarence Elliott, the noted English plant-hunter and specialist in Alpines is to be in America during the late winter and spring of 1931. The main purpose of Mr. Elliott's visit is an expedition into the mountains of Northern California, Oregon, and Washington after new and interesting plants; but it has been arranged that he should give a few weeks to lecturing before starting on his travels. Those familiar with Mr. Elliott's writing in The New Flora and Sylva, The Gardeners' Chronicle, etc., will have no hesitation as to his ability to charm and interest an audience. His lectures will be illustrated with slides, many of them beautifully colored by Mrs. Malby.

The field of Mr. Elliott's explorations has been a wide one. He has of course made repeated expeditions into the European Alps and the Pyrenees, but also in the islands of Corsica and Majorca, in Chile and the Andes, in Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, and twice to the Falkland Islands. As a result of his last trip into the Andes he introduced the lovely Leucocoryne ixioides, the so-called "Glory of the Sun," which has made such a sensation in England, and which should be seen in America before long. The slides include views in the mountains and other collecting grounds besides close-up plant portraits, most of the latter in color.

Mr. Elliott calls his lecture, "Plant Hunting in the European Alps, in the Andes, and in English Cottage Gardens."

I venture to bring this opportunity to your notice with the idea that you may be interested in securing Mr. Elliott for a lecture either under the above title or on the Cultivation of Alpines. All correspondence regarding the lectures should be addressed to A. P. Saunders, Clinton, New York.

As Mr. Elliott's time is very limited the program of his lectures will be restricted, and those who wish to secure him will be wise to make early application. Mr. Elliott will land in Boston about March 7th, and will immediately appear before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and the Chestnut Hill Garden Club. After a short stay in Boston and New York, if it is possible to arrange his lectures in a convenient sequence, he will move westward, and will lecture in the Pacific Coast States in the latter part of April and early May.

During his stay in America Mr. Elliott is prepared to act as consultant on rock garden construction and planting, in which he has had a great deal of experience in England.

A. P. Saunders.

Sacramento's Spring Fiesta and Flower Show opened February 25th. The President of the Chamber of Commerce said, "The Camellia Show alone is well worth the whole effort put into this Exposition. Never in the history of the United States has there been such a magnificent display of Camellia blooms and such a great variety. Beyond all doubt this display establishes Sacramento as the world's camellia city."—K. O. Sessions.

DIANTHUS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

Dianthus plumarius, the old fashioned Scotch or border pink, is, with its many valuable hybrids too well known to need descripiton. All are still useful as border or rock garden plants. D. caesius, the native "Cheddar pink" of England, is also familiar to most gardeners. The type is a compact low growing plant making cushions of blue-gray foliage which in spring becomes smothered in a mass of blooms of a rather hard bright pink on six inch stems. This pink is especially fitted for dry walls and banks and will stand much neglect. Its color varies with the soil. D. caesius has many attractive hybrids, most of which are more satisfactory in coloring than their parent but are not always so permanent.

D. deltoides, the Maiden pink, is another commonly grown dianthus. It has small, almost scentless flowers of bright pink and is hardy and durable. The white form and three good hybrids will be found as easy to grow

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as the type. Brilliant, with flowers of bright rose; and Major Sterne's Variety and Bowles' Variety, both with bronzy foliage and rich crimson flowers.

Three lesser known dianthus are D. Allwoodii, A. neglectus and D. alpinus. All are choice and none are difficult to grow. A. Allwoodii is one of the modern improvements on the old fashioned hardy pink and has large, fragrant, double flowers on long stems. It comes in a variety of colors (often a mixture of red and white) and is almost ever blooming. D. neglectus is a beautiful pink that is happy in poor gritty soil. It is dwarf and a true alpine with flowers of cherry salmon, buff yellow on the reverse side. A. alpinus is another dwarf alpine. It has dark shiny foliage and a very large flower that varies in color but is usually bright rose pink with a crimson ring toward the center. Give D. alpinus a gritty soil, a little lime and a partially shady location.

—Lester Rowntree, Carmel, Calif.

A DISH LANDSCAPE

Clara M. Williams
Old Town

I've a little handmade landscape
In a little handmade box,
And a world of happy fancies
A magic key unlocks.
As I gaze upon the ripples
Of its bit of sandy shore,
I am sure if I but listen
I can hear the breakers roar.

Close within the verdant forest
On that little mimic hill,
Well I know the birds are singing
Beside some hidden rill.
On the slopes of yonder mountain
Fret with many a crag and fell,
In the joy of boundless freedom
All secure, the wild deer dwell.

In my pastures there are cattle
Many flocks of woolly sheep;
There are mysteries in the canyons
Where the shadows lie asleep.
There are cat-tails on the borders
Moved by eddies in the stream,
Where a host of silvery minnows
O'er the pearly pebbles gleam.

Such the magic of my handiwork
With its mount, and field and stream,
I can travel in far countries
As I sit and idly dream.
For the lure that lies within it
Leads me over land and sea.
Through my landscape's necromancy
All earth's portals ope to me.

CLIMATE OR SOIL?

All rules for the growing of Bearded Iris seem to be outlawed in San Diego. First the manner of setting the rhizomes in the ground is to bury them deep instead of letting them ride as "a duck on the water," quoting Doctor Schull. Next the soil in which they are thus buried must be enriched by plenty of imported adobe and fertilizer, in case your soil is light and sandy, as prevails in most parts of the city. One garden which boasts of excellent results has plants covered with several inches of stable fertilizer and there are no signs of rot. Another taboo in other localities is water, and Iris growers of San Diego must be prepared to meet large water bills if they wish good blooms. If one loves Iris enough to give them this attention one can be reasonably sure of success from those with ancestors of Mesopotamia, trojana or Ricardi stock. Professor Wight of Palo Alto thinks the trouble with Iris in San Diego to be climatic but I still believe that there are Iris which will thrive in our climate if we can feed them properly. There was once a belief that camellias and gardenias would not grow here but it is fast becoming a popular hobby in many gardens to grow them. Peonies still remain aloof but I stubbornly hold to the belief that some day there will be successful collections of rare Iris in every flower-lover's garden. The Iris section of the San Diego Floral Association are proud of their blue ribbon won at the Encinitas Flower Show for a very modest Iris display. Thanks are due to those who robbed their gardens of each bloom. The lovely purple Kochii with the creamy white Albicans, one Germanica, a Juniata, bowls of stylosa and lovely bronze Charons from the Wight gardens of La Mesa, created much interest at the show. Always there was the cry, "How did you find so many Iris at this time of the year?" There is only one answer, "Climate!"—C. B. T.

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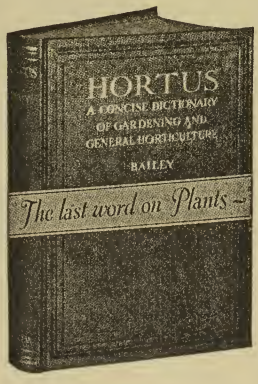

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